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FIRST DEFENDANT SENTENCED IN SAN ANTONIO LAW ENFORCEMENT CORRUPTION CASE

(SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS) This afternoon, United States District Judge Edward C. Prado sentenced 29-year-old former Bexar County Deputy Constable **GILBERT ANDRADE, JR.** to 30 months in Federal prison for attempting to aid and abet the distribution and possession with intent to distribute in excess of five kilograms of cocaine.

In addition, Judge Prado ordered that Andrade be placed under supervised release for a period of three years after completing his prison term.

On August 30, 2001, Andrade plead guilty to the charge. Andrade admitted that on August 14, 1999, while serving Bexar County as a Deputy Constable, 5th Precinct, he met with an FBI agent who was acting in an undercover capacity posing as a "mid level" cocaine trafficker and discussed the transportation of approximately 6 kilograms of cocaine in exchange for \$2,000.00. Furthermore, on the following day, he entered the Greyhound Bus Station, located at 500 North St. Mary's in San Antonio and approached Locker #1 where he retrieved a black, padlocked suitcase as he'd been instructed by the undercover agent. Andrade then returned to Room 704 of the Embassy Suites Hotel in San Antonio and gave the bag to the undercover agent. The undercover agent then paid Andrade \$2,000.00 in cash for his service.

Also this afternoon, 29-year-old former S.A.P.D. officer **ALFRED VALDES** appeared before Judge Prado and plead guilty to one count of Exceeding Authorized Computer Access. As a result, Valdes faces up to five years in Federal prison and a maximum \$250,000 fine. Valdez admitted that on or about March 10, 2001, he met with a cooperating source working for the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the parking lot of a San Antonio hotel. During this meeting, Valdes was paid \$700.00 for using his SAPD Mobile Data Terminal computer (MDT) to access information concerning certain license plate numbers provided by the source. Valdes knew at the time that he accessed such information for his private financial gain and that he exceeded his authorized access to the National Crime Information Center (NCIC). The NCIC is managed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation which is a component of the United States Department of Justice.

Andrade and Valdes were among twelve individuals who were arrested on March 22, 2001, by special agents with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and San Antonio Police officers in connection with an undercover investigation that focused on official corruption. Assistant United States Attorneys David Counts and Bill Baumann are prosecuting this case on behalf of the Government.

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